MEDIA RELEASE

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A fun day out is prescribed at Leicester’s Festival of Health

The University of Leicester is teaming up with NHS and local authority partners this summer to host the city’s first festival of health on Saturday 6 July. Open to all ages, the festival aims to inform the public about the range of health services available in Leicester in a fun and interactive way, and to help them make positive choices about their own health and emotional wellbeing. All the funds raised on the day will go to support NHS charities in Leicester.

The event will run from 11am until 3pm in the University’s Events Square. As well as around 40 stands in the main marquee representing health and wellbeing services, visitors to the festival can get advice about a range of topics, including infant feeding, mental wellbeing, breast checks, stopping smoking, strokes, heart disease and diabetes. Kids can enjoy face painting, bouncy castles, a teddy bear clinic and the
Bambino Disco, as well as taking part in a health-themed treasure hunt. The event will feature live music as well as Zumba and Born to Move dance sessions.

In addition, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust will be hosting its Annual Public Meeting at the festival (from 12 noon in the Ken Edwards Building), and everyone is welcome to attend and find out more about local mental health, learning disability and community health services. Members of the public will have the opportunity to learn about and give their views on the Trust’s improvement programmes, including the All Age Mental Health Transformation Programme.

A range of refreshments will be available throughout the festival, and space will be provided for those bringing picnics. Parking for cars and bikes is free, as is entry to the festival, although a ‘pay as you feel’ contribution will be requested for some of the activities. More details are available at: https://healthyleicester.eventbrite.co.uk

Professor Philip Baker, head of the College of Life Sciences at the University of Leicester, said: “After the success of last year’s Family Fun Day, which the University hosted to mark the 70th anniversary of the NHS, we are delighted to expand the scope this year to a ‘festival of health’ for the city, offering something for all ages. I’m so pleased that we have this opportunity to celebrate the close relationship that the University, and particularly the College of Life Sciences, has with both University Hospitals of Leicester and Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust.”

Dr Peter Miller, chief executive of Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust, said: “This event will really showcase the huge range of services available to the residents of Leicester, and we welcome the opportunity to work alongside our university, NHS, local authority and voluntary sector partners to help the public make informed choices in relation to their health and emotional wellbeing. I hope that people will join us for our annual public meeting, and find out more about our plans for the future.”

Chairman of University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust, Karamjit Singh CBE, said: “We are proud to be part of this event, and look forward to showcasing our services. The event is a great opportunity to raise funds for both Leicester’s Hospitals Charity
and Raising Health, with a particular focus on helping enhance the care we provide for local children.”

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About The University of Leicester
The University of Leicester is led by discovery and innovation – an international centre for excellence renowned for research, teaching and broadening access to higher education. It is among the top 25 universities in the Times Higher Education REF Research Power rankings with 75% of research adjudged to be internationally excellent with wide-ranging impacts on society, health, culture, and the environment. The University is home to just over 20,000 students and approximately 3,000 staff. Find out more: https://le.ac.uk/about

About University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust
The University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust is one of the biggest and busiest NHS trusts in the country, spread over the General, Glenfield and Royal Infirmary hospitals, and serving one million residents of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, and a further two to three million from across the rest of the country.

We are constantly striving to improve the care and experience our patients receive, through looking at the ways we work, ensuring our staff are highly trained and encouraging pioneering research. This allows us to offer our patients the latest technologies, techniques and medicines as well as attracting and retaining our enviable team of more than 15,000 highly skilled staff who work hard to deliver caring at its best for every patient, every time.

About Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust
Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) provides community health, mental health and learning disabilities services for the one million people living in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. We have a budget in excess of £275 million and employ approximately 5,500 staff. For more information visit: www.leicspart.nhs.uk. Raising Health is our registered charity (number 1057361). It raises funds to support LPT’s excellent care initiatives, equipment and innovations which go above and beyond core NHS provision, to enhance the experience of our patients, service users and staff. www.raisinghealth.org.uk

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